

16. (Amended) The hang tag of claim 14, further comprising at least one edge, wherein said slot is provided at least 0.15 inches from each edge.

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cont.
17. (Amended) The hang tag of claim 14, wherein said slot is elongated.

18. (Amended) The hang tag of claim 17, wherein said slot is rectangular.

20. (Amended) The hang tag of claim 14, wherein at least a portion is formed of a material selected from the group consisting of polyethylene, polystyrene, polyolefins, polyphenylene, polycarbonate, polyvinylchloride, nylons, acrylics, aluminum, and combinations thereof.

Add the following new claims:

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~~27~~ 28. (Newly Added) The hang tag of claim 14, wherein said slot is substantially elongated.

~~28~~ 29. (Newly Added) The hang tag of claim 17, wherein said slot is substantially rectangular.

~~29~~ 30. (Newly Added) A hang tag capable of automatically and permanently being attached to an elongated object by a machine having at least one jaw suitable for applying a securement strap to an object, the hang tag comprising:

a first surface, a second surface, and a slot defined therebetween; wherein said slot has minimum dimensions of at least about 0.25 inches by about 1 inch so as to be capable of permitting the jaw to travel through the slot so that the securement strap can be threaded through the slot automatically by the jaw of the machine; wherein said slot is at least 0.1 inches from any edge of said hang tag; wherein said slot has at least one arcuate edge; wherein at least a portion is formed of a material selected from the group consisting of a polyethylene, polystyrene, polyolefins, polyphenylene, polycarbonate,

polyvinylchloride, nylons, acrylics, aluminum, and combinations thereof; and wherein at least a portion is formed of a cross-laminated material.

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28. (Newly Added) A hang tag capable of automatically and permanently being attached to an elongated object by a machine having at least one jaw suitable for applying a securement strap to an object, the hang tag comprising:

a first surface, a second surface, and a slot defined therebetween, wherein said slot has minimum dimensions of at least about 0.312 inches by about 1.25 inches so as to be capable of permitting the jaw to travel through the slot so that the securement strap can be threaded through the slot automatically by the jaw of the machine; wherein said slot is at least 0.15 inches from any edge of said hang tag; wherein said slot has at least one arcuate edge; wherein at least a portion is formed of a material selected from the group consisting of a polyethylene, polystyrene, polyolefins, polyphenylene, polycarbonate, polyvinylchloride, nylons, acrylics, aluminum, and combinations thereof; and wherein at least a portion is formed of a cross-laminated material.

REMARKS

The Drawings

The Office Action requires applicants to show a grommet in the drawings since that feature is claimed. Applicants have converted FIG. 9 to be FIG. 9A and applicants have added new FIG. 9B, which is a side view of the hang tag. Both FIGS. 9A and 9B both show grommet 77. Applicants have provided a copy of the FIGS. 9A and 9B for the convenience of the Examiner and have submitted revised Formal Drawings under separate cover.

In addition, applicants wish to point out that the Office Action does not provide any indication that the Official Draftsperson of the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office has approved the drawings filed with the application. Thus, applicant respectfully requests an indication that the drawings have been accepted by way of a "Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review" (PTO-948 Form).